GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

General Administration (I&PR) Department – Media Relations – New Comprehensive and integrated G.O. after Modifications to A.P. Media Accreditation Rules,2019 issued in G.O.Ms.No.142,GA(I&PR) Department, Dt. 20.11.2019 – Orders – Issued.

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GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (I&PR) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No.38 Dt.30.03.2023

Read the following:

1. G.O.Ms.No.176, G.A(I&PR) Department , dt.7.4.1999.
2. G.O.Ms.No.96, G.A (I&PR) Dept., dt.08-03-2006.
3. G.O.Ms.No.142, G.A(I&PR) Dept., dt.20.11.2019.
4. From the Commissioner, I&PR, A.P., Vijayawada Lr.No.07090/MR/2022,dt.15.02.2023.

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ORDER:

In the reference 3rd read above, Government have issued orders in A.P. Media Accreditation Rules, 2019 to grant accreditations to the media representatives at State Head Quarters, Publishing centers and in the Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

2. The Commissioner, I&PR in his letter 4th read above has reported that, due to COVID-19 pandemic the size of the daily news papers, structure of the news papers and circulation of the news papers significantly decreased. Many small Newspapers have closed the operations and Big Newspapers also reduced their staff and number of pages in their papers. Most of the big newspapers have stopped their District tabloids during pandemic. And also keeping in view of the formation of 13 new Districts in the State, it is imperative to constitute 26 DMACs.

3. The Commissioner, I&PR had constituted a Committee to examine the present rules and to make suitable suggestions to bring out a new comprehensive and integrated G.O. to suit the present scenario. The Committee has examined the G.O.Ms.No.142, GA(I&PR) Department, Dt.20.11.2019 and the prevailing conditions in print and electronic media regarding the issue of accreditations, since the Welfare schemes like Health Cards, Comprehensive Insurance, Pensions etc., are linked with accreditations at State and District Level.

4. Based on the recommendations of the Committee, the Commissioner, I&PR, has send proposal to Government to bring out new comprehensive and integrated A.P. Accreditation rules, 2023, after modifications to A.P. Media Accreditation Rules, 2019 issued in G.O.Ms.No.142, GA(I&PR) Department, dated: 20.11.2019 to suit the present scenario.

5. Government, after careful examination of the proposal of the Commissioner, Information & Public Relations, A.P., and in supersession of the existing A.P. Media Accreditation Rules, 2019 issued in G.O.Ms.No.142 GA (I&PR.I) Dept., dt.20.11.2019, hereby issues the Andhra Pradesh Media Accreditation Rules, 2023 as specified in the Annexure to this order.

6. These Rules shall come in to force with immediate effect.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

THUMMA VIJAY KUMAR REDDY
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY TO GOVT (I&PR)

To
The Commissioner, I&PR, A.P., Vijayawada (w.e.)
All District Collectors in the State.
All Regional Joint Directors and DIPROs in the State through
the Commissioner, I&PR, A.P., Vijayawada.
The Commissioner of Printing, Stationery and Store Purchases, A.P.,
Copy to :
P.S. to Prl. Secretary to Hon'ble CM
P.S. to Hon'ble Minister (I&PR)
P.S. to Chief Secretary
P.S. to Advisor (Communications)
P.S. to E.O. Secretary to Govt. (I&PR)
The GA (Cabinet) Department, A.P. Secretariat.
SC/SF

//FORWARDED::BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE
(To G.O.Ms. No.38 GA (I&PR) Dept., Dt.30.03.2023)

1. SHORT TITLE AND APPLICATION:-

a. These Rules may be called the Andhra Pradesh State Media Accreditation Rules 2023.

b. These rules shall apply to grant of accreditation to the Media Representatives including Desk Journalists at the State Head Quarters, Publishing Centers and in the Districts of Andhra Pradesh.

2. DEFINITIONS: In these rules unless the context otherwise requires:-

a. "ACCREDITATION" means the recognition of a Media representative by the Government for the purpose of access to all sources of official information in the Government.

b. ACCREDITATED MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE" means the Media Representative who has been granted accreditation in accordance with these rules.

c. "BIG DAILY/PERIODICAL" means Newspaper or Periodical having a circulation of above 75,000 copies per day/ per issue or as decided by the registrar of Newspapers of India from time to time.

d. "BUREAU CHIEF" means the Head of the Bureau of Newspaper or News Agency or Satellite/Cable Channel with news content.

e. "COLLECTOR" means the Collector of the District concerned.

f. "COMMISSIONER" means the Commissioner or Special Commissioner or the Director.

g. "COMMITTEE" means the State or the District Media Accreditation Committee.

h. "DEPARTMENT" means the Information and Public Relations Department.

i. "DIPRO" means the District Information & Public Relations Officer concerned who is head of the department in the district.

j. Editor means the person who is declared as Editor of Newspaper/periodical as declared in RNI Certificate.

k. "ELECTRONIC MEDIA CHIEF/ EDITOR" means the Head of Satellite Channel with news content and declared Head of the News Division of the Satellite News Channel.

l. "Head of Cable Network/ NEWS EDITOR News division means" one who heads the news division of Cable Channel as defined in the Cable Television Network Regulations Act 1995.

m. "GOVERNMENT" means the Government of Andhra Pradesh.

n. "MEDIUM DAILY/PERIODICAL" means Newspaper or Periodical having circulation between 25,001 to 75,000 copies per day/per issue or as decided by the Registrar of Newspapers of India from time to time.

o. "Official Media Unit" means:

   i. The news unit of Doordarshan, All India Radio, Press Information Bureau, News Reel Unit and periodical of Government of India.

   ii. The Publicity Cell, Media Relations Section, Photo Section, Video Unit, News Recording Unit, Periodical Unit of the Information and Public Relations Department.

   iii. The News Unit of the Andhra Pradesh State Film, Television and Theatre Development Corporation.

   iv. Persons dealing with Media of the AP Digital Corporation.

p. "News Agency means" the News Agency or Feature Agency or News Photo/video Agency dealing with News or News Photo/video of Public Interest.

q. “NEWS MEDIA” means the newspaper or periodical or Agency or ELECTRONIC Media Unit.

i) “MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE” means the Press Representative, Government Media Representative, Private Satellite channel/cable channel with news content representative.

ii) “PRESS REPRESENTATIVE” means the Editor, Bureau Chief, DESK IN CHARGE, Desk Journalist, SUB EDITOR Correspondent, Reporter, Photographer, Cartoonist, Sports correspondent, Cultural and film correspondent representing any Newspaper, periodical, News Agency, feature Agency, News Photo /video agency.

iii) “GOVERNMENT MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE “means the representative of the Media Units of the Government of India, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh State Film, Television and Theatre Development Corporation and Andhra Pradesh Digital Corporation.

iv) ELECTRONIC MEDIA REPRESENTATIVE, “Satellite Channel and Cable News Net Work Representative” means News Editor, Asst. Editor, the Input Editor, Output Editor, Copy Editor, News Coordinator, Bureau Chief, News Producer/Sub-Editor, News Reader, Content Producer, Voice Over, Desk Journalist, Correspondent /Reporter, Video Cameraman, Video Editor, Graphic Designer representing from any Satellite/Cable network.

r. “NEWS PAPER” means a daily newspaper containing news of public interest.

s. “NOTICE” means seven days notice in advance to the members of the accreditation Committee prior to the date of meeting. In case of emergency 48 hours prior intimation to the date of meeting.

t. “PERIODICAL” means weekly or fortnightly or monthly containing news of public interest other than caste based and religion based.

u. “Electronic Media unit means the satellite news channels and cable network media units managed by Private organisations other than government media units.

i. “SATELLITE NEWS CHANNEL” means a news and current affairs TV channel broadcast through Satellite in India and approved/permitted by the Ministry of I&B, Government of India and having at least 50% of news content.

ii. “CABLE NEWS CHANNEL” means a Cable Television Network registered under Cable Television networks (Regulations) Act 1995 of the Ministry of I&B, Government of India and having at least 3 news bulletins of 30 minutes each everyday, with own running cable.

v. “QUORUM” means a minimum of 2/3 members of the total Accreditation Committee.

w. “SMALL DAILY/PERIODICAL” means the Newspaper having 2000 copies to 25,000 copies circulation per day, periodical having 1,000 copies to 25,000 copies per week/ fortnight/ month per issue or as defined by the Registrar of Newspapers of India from time to time.

x. “STATE HEAD QUARTERS” means the area which comes under Capital.

y. “WORKING JOURNALIST” means any journalist as defined in the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955) as amended from time to time.

3. TERM AND COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE:

1. (a) There shall be State Media Accreditation Committee and District Media Accreditation Committee.

(b) The term of the said committees is two years from the date of appointment. However the Committee shall continue to function till a new committee is constituted. The Committee shall meet once in three months or as and when necessary for issue and replacement of Accreditations.

(c) In case of resignation or death of a member, the vacancy shall be filled with an alternative member, by getting nomination from the nominating authority, as the case maybe.

(d) In case of no woman Journalist is available, then only a male Journalist of that category may be included as a member.

2. The State Media Accreditation Committee shall consist the following members.

a	The Commissioner, Information and Public Relations Department	Chairman
b	The Representatives of Big and Medium Daily newspapers published from the State (Print Media Journalists and Editors) not exceeding 4 members to be nominated by the Government (Among four, one should be an Editor and 2 Woman Journalists)	4 Members
c	The Representatives of Small daily newspapers not exceeding 2 members to be nominated by the Government. (One of them should be a woman Journalist)	2 Members
d	The Representatives of the Electronic Media including Video Journalists not exceeding 3 members to be nominated by the Government (One of them should be a woman Journalist)	3 Members
e	The Representative of the Photo Journalists not exceeding one member to be nominated by the Government	1 Member
f	The Representative of the Labour Department not below the rank of Joint Commissioner	Member
g	The Representative of YSR Aarogyasri Health care Trust not below the rank of Joint Director or equivalent Designation	Member
h	The Representative of Housing Department not below the rank of General Manager	Member
i	Chief Public Relations Officer of South-Central Railway or his nominee	Member
j	The Representative of Public Transport Department (A.P.S.R.T.C) not below the rank of Executive Director	Member
k	The Director/Addl. Director, I&PR Dept	Member
l	Chief Information Engineer/ Regional Information Engineer, I&PR Dept	Member
m	The Joint Director (Media Relations) I&PR Dept	Member-Convener

3. The District Media Accreditation Committee shall consist the following members.

a	The District Collector	Chairman
b	The Representatives of Big and Medium Daily newspapers published from the State (Print Media Journalists /Editors) not exceeding 2 members to be nominated by the Government. (One of them should be a woman Journalist)	2 Members
c	The Representatives of Small daily newspapers not exceeding 1 member to be nominated by the Government.	1 Member
d	The Representatives of the Electronic Media including Video Journalists not exceeding 2 members to be nominated by the Government. (One of them should be a woman Journalist)	2 Members
e	The Representative of the Photo Journalists not exceeding one member to be nominated by the Government	1 Member
f	The Representative of the Labour Department not below the rank of Assistant Commissioner	Member
g	District Coordinator of YSR Aarogyasri Health care Trust	Member
h	The Representative of Housing Department not below the rank of Executive Engineer/ Manager	Member
i	The Representative of Indian Railways at District Headquarters not below the rank of Station Master	Member
j	The District Public Transport Officer of A.P.S.R.T.C or his nominee not below the rank of Depot. Manager	Member
k	The DIPRO of I&PR Department	Member-Convener

4. Terms and Conditions of SMAC and DMAC:

a) The Print Media (Big, Medium, Small & Photo) and Electronic Media Journalists must have more than 5 years' experience in Journalistic field.

b) He/ She shall be well aware of Journalistic issues and service motto in Journalistic field.

5. SCOPE AND PERIOD OF ACCREDITATION:

a) Accreditation may be given in accordance with the rules to the media representatives at the State Headquarters and in the districts as recommended from time to time by the Committee. The Editor of daily newspapers and periodicals should apply for accord of accreditation at the place of Publication Centre only. The members of the State Media Accreditation Committee/District Media Accreditation Committee shall also be given accreditation at State/District level, if the member is not accredited at State /District Headquarters.

b) Accreditation is personal and not transferable.

c) Accreditation shall not confer any official or any special status for media representatives.

d) Accreditation shall be issued to a press/ media representative to pursue the profession of journalism and not for any other purposes.

e) An accredited media representative shall not use the words "Accreditated to the Government of Andhra Pradesh" on visiting cards, letter heads or on any other form, any other literature. Any Violation of these rules which is brought to the notice of the Government (I&PR Dept.,) will be viewed seriously. His/Her Accreditation shall be cancelled without any notice and the individual will be barred from granting Accreditation for a period of two years.

f) When an accredited media representative ceases to represent the media organisation on whose behalf he/she is accredited or when the newspaper or periodical or News agency or Media Unit ceases to function, the fact shall be brought to the notice of the Commissioner/Collector in Writing within (fifteen) 15 days by both the representatives and the Editor/Bureau Chief/ Head of the Satellite Channel & Cable network and the accreditation card shall be returned to the Commissioner or the Dist. Collector by the Editor/Bureau Chief of the Organisation. If the representative fails to surrender the Accreditation Card within three months from the date of he/she ceases to represent the organisation, he/she shall not be extended the accreditation facility for a period of Five years, even if he/she shall represent any other organisation. If any accredited Media representative ceases to represent the media organisation and fails to surrender the card, the organisation also should be made accountable and the Media organisation should not be issued another card applied in place of the unsurrendered card, even if the organisation is eligible otherwise.

g) The period of accreditation for the Media Representatives at the State and District headquarters shall be for two years.

h) Officers authorized by the Commissioner or the Collector shall be permitted to cross check the circulation and CABLE CONNECTIONS and other details of the Newspaper/ Periodical/News Agencies / Satellite channel / Cable Networks organisations periodically or at any time.

i) The Members of the Committee shall also be permitted to make surprise and random checks with the prior permission from Chairman of SMAC/DMAC to verify the circulation figures of daily newspapers and periodicals in support of documents filed by them.

j) The total circulation in the entire State is taken as criteria for entitlement of Accreditations to Dailies at State Level.

6. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NEWS PAPERS:

The following factors are to be taken into consideration for issue of accreditation in respect of Newspapers.

a) A daily newspaper having a minimum CERTIFIED circulation of 2000 copies is eligible for accreditation to its representatives.

b) Daily newspaper shall publish a minimum of 2000 copies per day and shall publish 24 issues per month to be eligible for sanction of 1+1 accreditations. Those dailies shall submit CA certificate as proof of circulation.

c) Small Newspapers shall submit CA certificate as prescribed by the I&PR Department to obtain full term accreditation (2 years) as per eligibility, in case of CA certificate obtained contains abnormal circulation figures from printer, then cross check will be done strictly as per Rule 5 (h).

d) The minimum sides of the daily newspapers or periodicals for accreditation eligibility shall be as mentioned in the Schedule A.

e) The contents of the newspapers shall include news emanating from the Government and its departments on social, political, economic, developments and other matters of public interest and public importance. The newspaper should contain 50% news out of the total print area, such as articles, reports, editorial, current news but not fiction.

f) A daily Newspaper is entitled for one accreditation to its Editor or to the correspondent recommended by the Editor from the date of obtaining RNI certificate initially. The additional accreditations shall be considered only after completion of six months period from the date of obtaining RNI certificate.

g) No daily Newspaper shall be extended accreditation facility without Registrar of Newspapers of India registration number.

h) The Daily Newspapers shall submit Audit Bureau of Circulation or Registrar of Newspapers of India Certificate in support of the circulation claimed and the Chartered Accountant Certificate for an initial period of 3 years from the date of RNI registration after that, it shall not be accepted as proof of circulation. However, the Committee may consider the submission of the Chartered Accountant Certificate as per the imprint line of the printer as a proof of circulation.

i) A daily newspaper with less than 75,000 copies of circulation per day the accreditation eligibility to its representative where more than 100 copies are sold, at that particular place other than state Headquarters, the publisher's certificate of printed and sold copies shall be enclosed. The entitlement of number of accreditations at State and District Headquarters for big, medium and small dailies shall be governed by the criteria mentioned in Schedules B, C & D respectively.

j) Daily Newspaper including District Editions shall supply one copy of daily from the date of commencement to the office of the Commissioner, (M.R. Section) / District Information Public Relations Officer /Asst. Public Relations Officer (MR) depending upon its place of publication and obtain acknowledgment. "Regularity of medium and small daily newspapers shall be verified before and after issue of accreditations. The accreditation extended to those papers which are not regular shall be cancelled by the committee. Accreditation cannot be extended to those for the subsequent year.

k) A Small daily Newspaper shall publish minimum 2000 copies regularly and submit CA certificate as proof of circulation, they may be eligible for 1+1 accreditation.

7 . ELIGIBILITY CRETIRIA FOR PERIODICALS:

The following factors are to be taken into consideration in respect of periodicals:

a. A periodical having a minimum certified circulation of 1,000 copies is eligible for issue of Accreditation to its Editor or its representative in the districts.

b. A periodical shall publish minimum 1,000 copies per issue (week / fortnight / month) is eligible for sanction of one accreditation. Those periodicals shall submit CA certificate as proof of circulation.

c. Periodicals shall submit CA certificate as prescribed by the I&PR Department to obtain full term accreditation (2 years) as per eligibility, in case CA certificate obtained contains abnormal circulation figures from printer, then cross check will be done strictly as per Rule 5 (h).

d. A Periodical having a circulation of more than 10,000 copies is eligible for issue of accreditations at State headquarters if it is a publication centre.

e. No periodical shall be extended accreditation facility without RNI registration.

f. Periodicals having circulation above 25,000 copies shall submit ABC or RNI Certificate, in support of the circulation claimed and the Chartered Accountant Certificate shall not be accepted as proof of circulation. However, the Committee may consider the Chartered Accountant Certificate as per the imprint line of the printer as proof of circulation for an initial period of 3 years from the date of RNI registration.

g. The contents of the periodicals shall include news emanating from the Governments and its Departments and 50% of articles should be on current, social, political, economic and other matters of public interest.

h. A Weekly shall publish not less than (forty five) 45 issues, a fortnightly not less than (twenty two) 22 issues and a monthly not less than (eleven) 11 issues in a year.

i. The sides of the periodicals for eligibility to accreditation are mentioned in the Schedule-A.

j. The Minimum standing of the periodical shall be six months.

k. The big, medium and small magazines are eligible for accreditation subject to fulfillment of other prescribed conditions. The number of accreditations eligible to such magazines are shown in Schedule E.

l. Regularity of periodicals shall be verified before and after issue of accreditation. If the periodical found to be default of the previous year, accreditations shall not be considered for the corresponding year.

8. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NEWS AGENCIES:

The following factors are to be taken into consideration for issue of accreditation in respect of news agencies or local news agencies and feature agencies, both at State and District Level.

a. The news agency shall be registered under Shops and Establishments Act or Companies Act at the time of commencement and its standing should be more than five years at State level and three years at Districts.

b. The news agency should have a minimum staff of 5 (five) including two correspondents /Photographers.

c. The minimum gross annual income of the agency should be Rs.5,00,000 from the Journalistic activity.

d. The Agency should have minimum six paying subscribers from among accreditated newspapers and media units.

e. The agency shall have Computer with internet facility or telephone or fax facilities and messenger service to supply news or photographs to its subscribers.

f. News agency shall submit the Annual Income Certificate by the Chartered Accountant along with IT returns of two preceding financial years prior to date of application for fresh or renewal of accreditations.

g. The agencies shall submit the press clippings of items published in different newspapers empanelled by I&PR Department once in 3 months. There shall be more than 2 items per day or average 60 items per month for each accreditation issued. News Agencies shall submit 3 months press clippings prior to the date of application for fresh or renewal of accreditations.

h. The nature of service of news agency shall be responsible, impartial and non- communal in nature.

i. The entitlement for News Agencies is detailed in Schedule F.

9. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PHOTO/VIDEO NEWS AGENCIES:

a. The Photo News Agency shall have a minimum standing of 5 (Five) years at the State level and 3 (three) years at the district level, and shall be registered under the Shops and Establishments Act, from the date of inception.

b. The minimum gross annual income of the News Photo Agency shall be Rs.3,00,000 (Rupees Three Lakhs) per annum from the accredited newspapers and media units. The Agency shall submit the Annual Income Certificate issued by the Chartered Accountant along with IT returns of two preceding financial years prior to date of application.

c. The Agency shall have minimum six paying subscribers from among accredited newspapers and media units.

d. The news photo agency shall submit the photo clippings of Photographs published in different newspapers empanelled by I&PR Department for a period of 3 months prior to date of application for accreditation or renewal. There shall be 2 Photographs per day or average of 50 photographs per month for each accreditation received.

e. The entitlement under this category is detailed in Schedule G.

f. The electronic media news agency shall have minimum 5 years of standing at State level and 3 years of standing at District level and shall be registered under shops and establishment Act from the date of inception. The minimum gross annual income of agency shall be Rs.10 lakh per annum. The agency shall submit annual income certificate issued by Chartered Accountant showing the particulars of studio along with IT returns. The agency shall submit 3 months Video news clippings prior to date of application which telecast with courtesy logo from empanelled news channels of I&PR. There shall be 2 video clippings per day or average of 50 Video clippings per month for each accreditation received. The entitlement under this category is defined in schedule G.

10. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR SATELLITE CHANNEL/CABLE NETWORK WITH NEWS CONTENT:

The Satellite Channels must be approved/permitted by Ministry of I&B, Govt. of India, and the Cable Channels must be registered under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995.

a. The Electronic Media having a minimum standing of one year is eligible for accord of accreditation.

b. The nature of telecast shall be responsible, impartial, noncommunal and shall uphold the social and cultural fabric of the country.

c. The entitlement of accreditations as detailed in the Schedule-H.

d. “The SMAC/ DMAC may consider providing accreditation facilities to Satellite News Channels, Satellite Channels with news content and Cable Network with own running cable channels with news content where studio setup is established. The news telecast per day shall be a minimum of 1½ hours for Satellite channels and 1 ½ hours for Cable Channels.”

e. Cable Network Channels who are telecasting in all 26 Districts of the State are only eligible for applying for accreditation at State Level.

f. For News channels who do not have own running cable and which are registered with A.P. Fiber net before September, 2021 and are paying the requisite fee to A.P. Fiber net regularly and running continuously are eligible for accreditation in that District.

11. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PRESS REPRESENTATIVES:

The press representative as defined in working Journalist Act i.e. the Editor, Bureau chief, Desk journalists, correspondent, Reporter, Photographer and cartoonist representing any newspaper or periodical or news agency shall fulfill the prescribed conditions for issue of accreditations.

a. His/ Her full time avocation shall be profession of journalism. He/She shall be a staff correspondent or reporter or Editor-cumCorrespondent or Editor or Staff Photographer or Staff Correspondent-cum-Photographer or staff cartoonist in any newspaper or news agency for issue of accreditation.

b. The State Media Accreditation Committee shall issue accreditation at State Hqs., to the Media Representative who fulfils the norms prescribed in these rules.

c. His/ Her residence shall be State Headquarters for issue of accreditation at State level.

d. The Dist. Media Accreditation Committee shall give accreditation at the District/constituency/Mandal level to the bonafide Media Representatives who fulfill the norms stipulated in these rules.

e. His/ Her residence shall be the publishing centre or District/constituency or Mandal Headquarters for which accreditation is sought.

f. Accreditations to correspondents at Mandal level shall also be given on the basis of producing press clippings from the Newspaper in which he/she is working. The number of press clippings shall not be less than ten per month for three months prior to his/her application.

g. He/ She shall not be an employee of any other organisation including OUT SOURCING/ CONTACT BASIS/ Government Department, public sector undertakings and local bodies etc.

h. He/ She shall have spent not less than five, three and two years in the profession of journalism for accreditation at State Headquarters, District Headquarters and at constituency/Mandal level respectively. The proof of experience shall be the identity card issued by the management or Pay slips/ Bank Statement.

i. The Correspondents and Desk Journalists for the State and District level must be having qualification of a Degree from a recognised University or must possess accreditations for the last Three (3) consecutive years or furnishing an authorisation letter from the Management of the Media House/ Organisation that he/she is an employee (proof shall be submitted).

j. The Correspondents and Desk journalists at Constituency and Mandal level must be Intermediate passed or having 2 years of accreditation cards or furnishing an authorisation letter from the Management of the Media House that he/she is employee (Proof shall be submitted).

12. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR FREELANCE CORRESPONDENT/ PHOTOGRAPHER/ CARTNOONIST AND VETERAN JOURNALIST:

a. A freelance correspondent/photographer/cartoonist who has experience of minimum 10 years in a newspaper or news agency or photo news agency or Government Media or Electronic Media units may be considered for issue of accreditation on his/her application if his/her principal avocation continuous to be Journalism.

b. A freelance correspondent shall submit 12 articles published with by line in big medium dailies/magazines in the year proceeding to the date of application.

c. Freelance photographers/Cartoonists shall submit 12 photo/cartoon clippings published in different daily newspapers/periodicals for a period of six (6) months prior to the date of application for accreditation/renewal along with a certificate to the effect of publication from the respective organisation.

d. The veteran Journalists can be issued accreditation as VETERAN on application to those who have completed Fifty-Eight (58) years of age and having 20 years of experience in the field of journalism without insisting on any other formalities (proof to be enclosed). In exceptional cases the Commissioner, I&PR and DISTRICT COLLECTOR can extend accreditation to the veteran Journalists, without insisting on any formalities.

e. Retired officers of the I&PR Dept., closely associated with media during their tenure of service and PRESENTLY pursuing the activity of Journalism can be considered for issue of accreditation on application, without insisting on any formalities.

f. A freelance Correspondent/Videographer/Animator who has experience of minimum 10 years in Satellite/Agency or Govt. Media shall submit 12 Video Clippings Telecast in different News Channels for a period of 6 months prior to the date of application for accreditation/renewal along with a certificate to the effect of telecast from the respective organization.

13. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ELECTRONIC MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES:

a) The correspondent shall have spent nit less than Five (5) years of service in the profession of Journalism for accreditation at the State Hqs. Or Three (3) years in the distrait/constituency level.

b) The Video Cameraman shall have a minimum of Two (2) years' service in the profession for accreditation at State/District/consistency level.

c) His/her residence shall be State or Dist./constituency Headquarters for issue of accreditation at State or District Headquarters/ constituency Headquarters as the case may be(proof should be enclosed) Aadhar/ Voter ID/ Driving License / LPG Gas connection etc.

d) The Satellite and cable channel representatives shall submit CDs of news telecast preceding one month at the time of applying for accreditation.

14. PROCEDURE FOR ACCREDITATION:

a. The Editor of Newspaper or Chief of the News Bureau/Head of the Govt. Media/CEO/Input Editor of Electronic Media/Freelancer/ Veteran shall apply to the Commissioner for issue of accreditation for the media representatives at State Head Quarters and to the Collector in the District in the prescribed proforma.

b. All the applications for accreditation shall be placed before the Committee and accreditation will be granted on the recommendations of the Committee.

c. If the Committee for any reasons duly recorded in its minutes, decides not to grant accreditation to an applicant, the fact of such decision shall be communicated to the organisation or freelancer concerned.

d. Accreditation given to one representative at a single place only either at State/District level where he/she is working.

e. The Commissioner at State headquarters and the Collector in the District may issue temporary accreditation to the Media representatives for a maximum period of six months at a time to avoid inconvenience to the Journalists and also 3 months to cover specific events.

15. ACCREDITATION TO GOVERNMENT MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES:

The following categories may be considered for issue of accreditations to Media units namely:-

1. GOVERNMENT OF INDIA:

a. The News Editor/Correspondent/Cameraman of News unit of Doordarshan.
b. The News Editor/Correspondents of the News Unit of All India Radio.
c. The Representatives of the Press Information Bureau.
d. The News Reel Officer of Films Division.
e. The Representatives of the periodicals of the Government of India.

2. STATE GOVERNMENT(I&PR) DEPARTMENT:

a. The Representatives of the Press Bureau and Media Relations Section, and persons associated with Media activities of I&PR Department in State/District.
b. The Photographers working in the Photo Section
c. The Video cameraman working in the Video Unit at State/District
d. The Operators working in the News Recording Unit
e. The Representatives of the State Government periodicals.
f. The officially designated PROs appointed by State Government, working in the Minister's/ Secretary's peshies.

3. A.P.STATE FILM, TELEVISION AND THEATRE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

a. Appointed by Government Representatives of the News Unit.
b. The Video cameraman working in the News Unit.

4. AP DIGITAL CORPORATION:

a. Officers dealing with Media.

16. WITHDRAWAL OF ACCREDITATION:

The Committee/Commissioner/Collector may suspend/withdraw the accreditation issued to any media representative under the following circumstances namely.

a. If an accreditated representative is engaged in non-Journalistic activities or conducts himself/herself in an unprofessional or undignified manner or uses his professional offices for unprofessional or unethical purpose and misuse of accreditation cards proved with Criminal Case.
b. If an accreditated representative is found to have given false information fully about himself/herself or about his/her organization and if the Committee after given reasonable opportunity is satisfied that the charges are true.
c. If the organization ceases to function or ceases to fulfill the conditions of eligibility.
d. If the representative ceases to work in the organization.
e. If the Editor or Bureau Chief or Head of the Media Unit or Electronic Media wants for cancellation of accreditation to their representatives.
f. If the Newspaper/Periodical/News Agency do not give accurate and authentic circulation figures, gross annual income and other data as prescribed in these rules.

17. APPEAL: The aggrieved applicant or organization shall be entitled to make an appeal for reconsideration to the Commissioner for district level accreditation and to the Secretary, GA (Information and Public Relations) Department for State Level Accreditation.

18. REVIEW:

a. There shall be a review of the list of accreditations finalised by the SMAC/DMAC at the end of two years.
b. For purpose of such a review, information regarding circulation, gross revenue and eligibility criteria as prescribed in these rules are to be furnished by the organisation/freelancers.
c. The Commissioner/Collector may communicate the decision of SMAC/DMAC to the concerned organisations/freelancers whenever necessary.

19. Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules Government shall be free to take any action warranted by circumstances in the mater relating to accreditations and the Commissioner, I&PR can issue accreditations depending upon the exigencies.

SCHEDULE-A

PRESCRIBED SIZES OF DAILIES/PERIODICALS FOR ACCREDITATION ELIGIBILITY

I. The Dailies/Periodicals shall contain 50% of news out of the total print area such as Editorials, Articles, Reports and Current news and not fiction.

II. Sizes:

a. DAILIES	:	4 Demy pages or 8 pages Tabloid.
b. WEEKLIES	:	32 Pages of ¼ Demy or 8 pages Demy.
c. FORTNIGHTS	:	48 Pages of ¼ Demy or 12 pages Demy
d. MONTHLIES	:	64 Pages of ¼ Demy or 16 pages Demy
e ANNUAL	:	As this periodical comes out once in a year, No accreditation facility provided.

SCHEDULE-B

I.ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED BIG DAILIES (CIRCULATION ABOVE 5.00 LAKH COPIES IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Sl No.	Description of the Newspaper Size & Circulation A Daily newspaper with multi editions with or without own news agency	State HQ	Group-A Cities Vsp, Vja, Tpt	Group- B Cities All Municipal Corporations other than Group -A Cities	Group- C Cities Other Districts	At Mandal Level
01	14-16 Demy pages and above including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine	29C. 30D 6 P.	12 C 12 D 2P	10 C 10 D 1 P	8 C 8 D 1 P	1C
02	10 -12 Demy pages including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine)	23C 25D 5P	8 C 8 D 2 P	6 C 6 D 1 P	4 C 4 D 1 P	1C
03	08-10 Demy pages including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine)	16C 20D 3 P	6 C 6 D 1 P	4 C 4 D 1 P	2 C 2 D 1 P	1C
04	National & other Daily Newspapers Published outside AP (Upcountry Newspapers)	3C 1P	1 C 1 P	Nil	Nil	Nil

*** Abbreviations: C= Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, P=Photographer**
Vsp= Visakhapatnam, Vja= Vijayawada, Tpt= Tirupathi

II. ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED BIG DAILIES

(CIRCULATION FROM 3,00,001 TO 5.00 LAKH COPIES IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Sl No.	Description of the Newspaper Size & Circulation **A Daily newspaper with multi editions with or without own news agency**	**State HQ**	**Group-A cities** **Vsp, Vja, Tpt**	**Group- B Cities** **All Municipal Corporations other than Group -A Cities**	**Group- C Cities** **Other Districts**	At **Mandal** Level
01	14-16 demy pages and above including District pages / Tabloid with Sunday magazine	25C 28D 6 P.	**8 C** **8 D** **2 P**	**6 C** **6 D** **1 P**	**4C** **4 D** **1 P**	1 C
02	10 -12 Demy pages including District pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine)	21C 24D 5P	**6 C** **6 D** **2 P**	**4 C** **4 D** **1 P**	**2 C** **2 D** **1 P**	1 C
03	08-10 Demy pages including District pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine)	16C 18D 4 P	**4 C** **4 D** **1 P**	**2 C** **2 D** **1 P**	**1 C** **1 D** **1 P**	1 C
04	National & other Daily News papers Published outside AP (**Upcountry Newspapers**)	2C 1P	**1 C** **1 P**	**Nil**	**Nil**	**Nil**

*** Abbreviations: C= Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, P=Photographer,**

III. ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED BIG DAILIES

(CIRCULATION FROM 75,001 TO 3.00 LAKH COPIES IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Sl No.	Description of the Newspaper Size & Circulation **A Daily news paper with multi editions with or without own news agency**	**State HQ**	**Group-A Cities** **Vsp, Vja, Tpt**	**Group- B Cities** **All Municipal Corporations other than Group -A Cities**	**Group- C Cities** **Other Districts**	At Assembly Constituency Level
01	14-16 Demy pages and above including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine	**23 C** **27D** **6 P.**	**6 C** **6 D** **2 P**	**4 C** **4 D** **1 P**	**2C** **2 D** **1 P**	2 C
02	10 -12 Demy pages including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine)	**18 C** **22D** **5P**	**4 C** **4 D** **1 P**	**2 C** **2 D** **1 P**	**1 C** **1 D** **1 P**	2 C
03	08-10 Demy pages including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine)	**13C** **16D** **2 P**	**2 C** **2 D** **1 P**	**1 C** **1 D** **1 P**	**1 C** **1 D**	2 C
04	National & other Daily News papers Published outside AP (Upcountry Newspapers)	**2C** **1P**	**1 C** **1 P**	**Nil**	**Nil**	Nil

*** Abbreviations: C= Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, P=Photographer**

SCHEDULE-C

ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR MEDIUM DAILIES

(CIRCULATION FROM 25,001 TO 75000 COPIES IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Sl No.	Category A daily news paper published at State Headquarter with own news agency	State HQ	Group-A cities Vsp, Vja, Tpt (If Publication Centre)	Group- B Cities All Municipal Corporations other than Group-A Cities (If Publication Centre)	Group- C Cities Other districts (If Publication Centre)	At Assembly Constituency level where more than 100 copies sold
01	12-14 Demy pages and above including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine	**10 C 12 D 2 P**	**2 C 2 D 1 P**	**2 C 2 D**	**2 C 2 D**	**1 C**
02	08 -10 Demy pages and above including District Pages/ Tabloid with Sunday magazine	**7 C 8 D 2 P**	**2 C 1 D 1 P**	**2 C 1 D 1 P**	**2 C 1 D**	**1 C**
03	08 Demy pages	**5 C 6 D 1 P**	**1 C 1 D**	**1 C 1 D**	**1 C 1 D**	**Nil**
04	National & other Daily Newspapers Published outside AP	**1 C 1 P**	**1 C**	**Nil**	**NIl**	**Nil**

*** Abbreviations: C= Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, P=Photographer**

SCHEDULE-D

ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR SMALL DAILIES

(CIRCULATION FROM 2000 TO 25000 COPIES IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

Sl No.	Category	Circulation	State Head Quarters	Group-A cities Vsp, Vja, Tpt (If Publication Centre in Dist HQ)	Group- B Cities All Municipal Corporations other than Group-A Cities (If Publication Centre in Dist HQ)	Group- C Cities Other districts (If Publication in Dist HQ)	Publication centre in Assembly Constituency HQ.
01	**08 -10 Demy pages and above**	**10,001 to 25,000**	**1 C 1 D**	**4 C 4 D**	**3 C 3 D**	**2 C 2 D**	**1 C 1 D**
02	**08 -10 Demy pages and above**	**5,001 to 10,000**	**1 C**	**3 C 3 D**	**2 C 2 D**	**2 C 1 D**	**1 C 1 D**
03	**04-08 Demy pages**	**2000 and above**	**Nil**	**1 C 1 D**	**1 C 1 D**	**1 C 1 D**	**1 C 1 D**
04	**National & other Daily Newspapers Published outside AP**		**1 C**	**1 C**	**Nil**	**Nil**	**Nil**

*** Abbreviations: C= Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, P=Photographer**

SCHEDULE-E

ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR PERIODICALS

Category	Weekly/Fortnightly/Monthly	Group-A cities	Group- B Cities	Group- C Cities
	At State Headquarters. (If Publication Centre)	**Vsp, Vja, Tpt (If Publication Centre)**	**All Municipal Corporations other than Group-A Cities (If Publication Centre)**	**Other districts (If Publication Centre)**
Circulation between 1000-10000 copies per issue	**-NIL-**	**1 Editor**	**1 Editor**	**1 Editor**
Circulation between 10001-25000.	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent**	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent**	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent**	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent**
Circulation between 25001 to 75000	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Cartoonist/ Photographer**	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Cartoonist/ Photographer**	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Cartoonist/ Photographer**	**1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Cartoonist/ Photographer**

Circulation above 75000	1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Photographer 1 Cartoonist	1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Photographer 1 Cartoonist	1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Photographer 1 Cartoonist	1 Editor 1 Correspondent 1 Photographer 1 Cartoonist

*** Abbreviations: C= Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, P=Photographer**

SCHEDULE –F

ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR NEWS AGENCIES AT STATE LEVEL AND AT DISTRICT LEVEL

S.No.	Category At State Level	Entitlement of Cards	Category At District Level with By-line/Date Line.	Entitlement of Cards.
01	Whose annual income is more than Rs.20 lakhs and upto 30 lakhs	07 C+01 P	Whose annual income is Rs.10 lakhs and above with 400 News items per month	4 C
02	Whose annual income is more than Rs.30 lakhs upto 50 lakhs.	09 C+02 P.	Whose annual income is Rs.8 lakhs and above with 300 News items per month	3 C
03	Whose annual income is more than Rs.50 lakhs to One Crore	11 C+02 P	Whose annual income is Rs.5 lakhs and above with 180 News items per month	2C

*** Abbreviations: C= Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, P=Photographer**

SCHEDULE –G

ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR PHOTO/ VIDEO NEWS AGENCIES AT STATE LEVEL AND AT DISTRICT LEVEL

I. FOR PHOTO NEWS AGENCY:

S.No.	Category At State Level	Entitlement of Cards	Category At District. Level with By-line/Date Line.	Entitlement of Cards.
01	Whose annual income is from Rs.3 lakhs to 5 lakhs	04 photographers	Whose annual income is from Rs.3. lakhs to 4 lakhs	2 photographers
02	Whose annual income is more than 5 lakhs	05 photographers	Whose annual income is more than Rs.4 lakhs	3photographers

II. FOR VIDEO NEWS AGENCY:

S.No.	Category At State Level	Entitlement of Cards	Category At District. Level with By-line/Date Line.	Entitlement of Cards.
01	Whose annual income is from Rs.12. lakhs to 15 lakhs	04 Videographers	Whose annual income upto Rs.10 lakhs	3 videographers
02	Whose annual income is more than Rs.15 lakhs.	05 Videographers	Whose annual income is more than Rs.10 lakhs	4 videographers

SCHEDULE – H

I. ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR EMPANELLED SATELLITE NEWS CHANNELS

S.No.	Category	At State Level	Group-A cities Vsp, Vja, Tpt	Group- B Cities All Municipal Corporations other than Group-A Cities	Group- C Cities Other Districts	At Assembly Constituency Level
01	Satellite 24 Hrs Telugu News Channels in AP	14 C 35 D 14 V	2 C 2V	1 C 1 V	1 C 1V	1 C cum V
02	Satellite Channel with News Content for 1 1/2 Hr.	06 C 10 D 06 V	1 C 1 V	1 C 1 V	1 C 1 V	Nil
03	National Channels (English & Hindi)	03 C 03 V	1 C 1V	Nil	Nil	Nil

II. ENTITLEMENT OF ACCREDITATION FOR CABLE NEWS CHANNELS WITH OWN RUNNING CABLE AT THE PLACE OF OPERATION.

S.No.	Category	SHQ	District HQ Level/ Municipal corporation	Municipalities
		General	General	
01	Cable Channels with OWN running cable Network with news content not less than 1 ½ Hours per day.	6C 5D 6V	3C 2 D 3V (where studio setup exists)	1 C 1 D 1V (where studio setup exists)
02	News Channels which are registered with A.P. Fiber Net (Registered with AP Fibernet before Sept, 2021 and running continuously till now)	2 C 2 V	1 C 1 V	1 C 1 V

***Abbreviations: C=Correspondent, D=Desk Journalist, V=Videographer,**

SCHEDULE –I

The following documents are to be submitted by the journalists/organisations/news agencies along with individual application in the prescribed form through Online.

By Applicant:

1. Recommendation letter from the organisation concerned.
2. Educational qualification certificate of the Journalist.
3. Latest ID card issued by the organisation.
4. Experience certificate of the Journalist issued by the organisation.
5. One month CD telecast in the Cable Net Work Channel preceding the date of application (For Cable Net Work Channel).
6. Press clippings in respect of Mandal correspondents, news agencies and Freelancers as mentioned in the G.O.
7. Age and experience proof for freelance and veteran Journalists.
8. Self declaration by the Journalist about criminal cases.
9. (3) pass port size photographs of the applicant.

By Organisation:

1. RNI Registration Certificate for dailies/periodicals.
2. ABC/ RNI/ CA Certificate of circulation for dailies/periodicals.
3. Photo copy of PAN card and preceding 2 years IT returns of the Organisation (for dailies/periodicals/agencies).
4. Latest copy of Annual returns submitted to RNI (for dailies and periodicals)
5. Publisher's certificate of printed and sold copies (for dailies and periodicals).
6. Information and broadcasting License (for satellite Channels).
7. Latest copy of annual returns submitted to I&B Ministry (for satellite Channels).
8. Certificate of Registration under Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 (for Cable channels).
9. Registration Certificate under Shops and Establishments Act (for news agencies).

THUMMA VIJAY KUMAR REDDY
EX-OFFICIO SECRETARY TO GOVT (I&PR)